

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Withdrawn) A portable point storing member for storing points corresponding to moneys, comprising:

a first cryptogram storing portion storing a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member;

a second cryptogram storing portion storing a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member;

changing means for reading said stored points in accordance with an externally applied read instruction, and changing said stored points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction; and

determining means for determining whether said changing means should be allowed to change the points in a point increasing direction or not, based on said first and second cryptograms.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) A point storing member comprising:
point storing means for storing points corresponding to moneys, and having data holding portions equal in number to said points for holding write data;

read means for reading out the points stored in said point storing means in accordance with an externally applied read instruction;

a first cryptogram storing portion storing a first cryptogram, set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member;

a second cryptogram storing portion storing a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member;

point changing means for allowing change of each of said data holding portions in said point storing means between a first state and a second state in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction;

cryptogram collating means for collating said first and second cryptograms for generating a third cryptogram; and

determining means for determining whether said changing means should be allowed to change the points or not, based on said third cryptograms.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Withdrawn) A method of using a portable point storing member, comprising the steps of:

storing, in advance, points corresponding to moneys, a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member and a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member; reading the points stored in said point sorting member

in accordance with an externally applied read instruction; and changing said points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction, wherein

changing of the points in a direction of increasing the points based on said point changing instruction is performed after determining whether said point changing instruction is to be followed or not, based on said first and second cryptograms.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Withdrawn) A method of using a portable point sorting member having portability; reading the points stored in said point storing member in accordance with an externally applied read instruction; and changing said points in accordance with an externally applied point changing instruction, wherein

said point storing member has data holding portions corresponding in number to said points,

said point storing member stores the points in accordance with the states of the respective data holding portions, and is allowed to change only from the first state to the second state,

said point storing member stores, in advance, point rewrite information,

said point rewrite information includes a first cryptogram set by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member and a second cryptogram set by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member, and

said point storing member is used such that each of said data holding portions is changed from the second state to the first state only when applied information matches with said point rewrite information.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of using the portable point storing member according to claim 7, wherein

said point rewrite information is supplied such that data relating to said first cryptogram is supplied in accordance with timing different from that of supply of data relating to said second cryptogram.

9. (Currently Amended) A point storing member comprising:

storing means for storing points;

a first secret data area for storing a first cryptogram setable by a first person concerned with manufacturing of said point storing member, said first cryptogram characterizing secret data of said first person;

a second secret data area for storing a second cryptogram setable by a second person different from said first person and concerned with use of said point storing member, said second cryptogram characterizing secret data of said second person;

changing means for changing the points stored in said storing means;

~~input~~ receiving means for receiving data to be verified; and

cryptogram collating means for collating said first and second cryptogram for generating a third cryptogram, said cryptogram collating means including:

comparing means for comparing said data to be verified and received via said input receiving means with said third cryptogram, wherein

it is determined whether said changing means should increase said points or not, based on a result of the comparison by said comparing means.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The point storing member according to claim 3, wherein said cryptogram collating means converts said first cryptogram set and adds said converted cryptogram set to said second cryptogram set.

12. (Previously Presented) The point storing member according to claim 9, wherein said cryptogram collating means converts said first cryptogram set and adds said converted cryptogram set to said second cryptogram set.